

From: Kathleen Frank <kathynmnfrank@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2016 9:49 AM
To: 
Subject: TESTIMONY FOR HB 4795 WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2016

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for your public service. I hope you take a careful look at HB 4795 and decide that this bill is not right for Michigan. You can put lipstick on a pig, but it is still a pig!

This bill adds penalties to our Firearm Preemption Law which illogically prohibits local government from adopting reasonable gun laws tailored to local conditions. The officials most familiar with local criminal activity and how to address it are prevented from doing so. This law overrides tradition and common sense by imposing identical gun laws on cities wracked with gun violence and rural areas where responsible gun ownership is more embedded in daily life. This law is associated with increased rates of gun trafficking. Why would we want to put lipstick on a law like this?

The gun lobby not only wants to tie the hands of local officials, but now through HB 4795 wants to intimidate and punish those who attempt to reduce gun violence through public safety ordinances. The gun lobby wants to line their pockets with Michigan tax dollars by giving trial lawyers of the NRA and other out-of-state special interest groups the power to sue local governments for enforcing reasonable gun laws. Cities would be forced to pay damages, costs, and the NRA's attorney fees simply for passing and enforcing laws designed to keep citizens safe. The city would have to pay these fees even if they amend the public safety law being challenged before the court issues a ruling.

This is NOT what the citizens of Michigan want. The citizens of Michigan are begging and patiently waiting for our Michigan Legislators to pass what we do want, and that is Universal Background Checks. Please get busy on THAT!! PLEASE DEFEAT BILL HB 4795.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Frank
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